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arrangement is excellent, and the reader is helped by typographical devices, chronological tables, illustrations, and maps ingeniously prepared to convey historical as well as geographical information. A judiciously selected bibliography and a useful index round out an impressive and unique presentation of the missionary history of Christianity before the modern era. As a text-book for mission study it may be made very instructive and effective. Here and there an evident slip in proof-reading should be corrected on the margin. The date for the publication of the New Testament into Cingalese given on p. 103 as 1873 should be 1783; Ziegenbalg's term of service in India (p. 105) should be thirteen years instead of ten; the date of Raymond Lull's birth (p. 205) should be 1234, or perhaps more correctly 1236, instead of 1334.

The book brings out in clear relief one very timely and cheering note of encouragement to missionary devotion in the church today. It is the fact that Christianity in all ages, whether of sunshine or shadow, whether of growth or decay, in times of corruption and degeneracy, as well as of spiritual fervor and power, has never failed to recognize in some measure the missionary obligation. In this century of superb incentive and alluring opportunity, missionary Christianity should surely arise and shine, for her light has indeed come.

JAMES S. DENNIS.

NEW YORK CITY.

THE INFLUENCE OF CHRIST IN MODERN LIFE. A Study of the New Problems of the Church in American Society. By NEWELL DWIGHT HILLIS. New York: Macmillan. Pp. xi + 416. $1.50.

IN the fifteen chapters of this book the author sets forth Christ as the great power that transforms both men and society. Some of the chapters are addresses delivered "before various colleges and universities," and were "not written from the viewpoint of the scholar or the philosopher," but "for the educated young men of the country, who are troubled by the skepticism of the times," and for the honest toilers who have little time for reading and study.

The volume contains much that is worthy of warm commendation. The author exalts Christ. In an attractive style he sets forth thoughts pertinent to our times, that will tend to dissipate doubt and recall men to faith in the unchanging verities of the gospel. But while we find so much that is excellent, faithfulness constrains us to say that

the book as a whole is diffuse in thought, profuse and sometimes extravagant in rhetoric, and often inaccurate in statement. We have not space to justify our criticism at length. But the following are a few examples among many: Emerson never entered the Christian pulpit (p. 23); the tides of the ocean are lifted by the planets (p. 42); the stones of a mosaic are "stitched" together (p. 316); Moses built a "temple" in the wilderness (p. 243); Paul wrote a letter to "a rich merchant in Philippi, requesting his friend to read the letter to the church that met in his house" (p. 374); "O'er the planets the sun scatters . . . . atmosphere" (p. 45); Cranmer "lifted up an example" (p. 44); Herculaneum was buried under thirty feet of ashes (p. 49); a passage found only in Proverbs is attributed to Job (p. 86); the sun "lifts from space heavy planets" (p. 44); into Nazareth "had run all the slime of creation" (p. 92); Christ was "by all counted traitorous to his country," and death on the cross was "a method of execution reserved for slaves and convicts" (p. 93); the human race during two-thirds of its history was without an "altar" (p. 259); "a chunk of cloud-bank buttered with the night wind" (p. 300); "the church began to discuss upon high politics" (p. 385); "earth's feeblings represent the insect life that busy themselves" (p. 387); twice he says that "Christ waved the golden rule" over this and that (pp. 52, 80); Christ "saw a thousand wrongs to be achieved" (p. 77); still the author had no intention of saying anything derogatory to Christ. It is a pity thus to mar a book which is so good that it should have been better.

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ARABIA: THE CRADLE OF ISLAM. Studies in the Geography, People and Politics of the Peninsula, with an Account of Islam and Mission Work. By S. M. ZWEMER. Chicago: Fleming H. Revell Co., 1900. Pp. 434. $2.

THIS book should come easily in the first class of missionary literature. In that class, so far as Arabia is concerned, it stands alone. Further, it will take high rank even among scientific studies of present-day Islam. Mr. Zwemer has an exceptional equipment as a missionary and has had exceptional opportunities. He is evidently in familiar touch with the European literature of his subject—and that can, unfortunately, be said of few of his profession—and the Arabic texts are also open to him. But, what is more, he actually knows southern Arabia with the sight of the eyes and the hearing of the ears. He has